

The House Committee on State Planning and Community Affairs - Local Legislation offers the following substitute to HB 517:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend an Act revising, superseding, and consolidating the laws relating to the governing authority of DeKalb County, approved March 8, 1956 (Ga. L. 1956, p. 3237), as amended, particularly by an Act establishing the form of government of DeKalb County, approved April 9, 1981 (Ga. L. 1981, p. 4304), as amended, so as to require a public comment period at every public meeting of the DeKalb County Commission or other entities created by the Commission or by local Act relating to the governing authority of DeKalb County; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

An Act revising, superseding, and consolidating the laws relating to the governing authority of DeKalb County, approved March 8, 1956 (Ga. L. 1956, p. 3237), as amended, particularly by an Act establishing the form of government of DeKalb County, approved April 9, 1981 (Ga. L. 1981, p. 4304), as amended, is amended by inserting in said amendatory Act a new section to be designated Section 12.1 to read as follows:

"SECTION 12.1.

In every public meeting of the Commission or any committee, board, department, agency, or other entity created by the Commission or by local Act of the General Assembly relating to the governing authority of DeKalb County, a public comment period shall be held at or near the beginning of the meeting to allow every individual present who wishes to speak an opportunity to address the Commission or other entity for at least two minutes regarding one or more issues or items before the Commission or other entity holding the meeting or on the agenda for such meeting. No vote of the members of the Commission or other entity holding the meeting shall precede the public comment period."

- 1
- SECTION 2.
- 2
- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.